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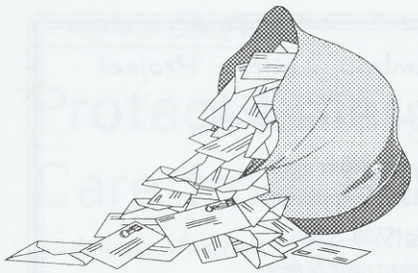
Sacramento, CA



Lambda Letters Project

32638

Vol. 10, No. 1 January, 2002 www.lambdaletters.org LambdaLP@aol.com (916) 728-1261

Hope

Lavender Library, Archives
and Cultural Exchange
Sacramento, CA

by Boyce Hinman, Chief Lobbyist

Hope has two beautiful daughters. Their names are Anger and Courage; Anger at the way things are and Courage to see that they do not remain the way they are.

—St. Augustine, 2nd century

We have to hate evil. But if we hate evil more than we love the good, we become good haters, and of those the world already has too many.

—William Sloane Coffin, Jr., 20th century

Is there any hope of passing major new gay-rights bills this year?

After the major progress of last year, some people say we can't expect much from our legislators or the Governor Davis this year. Others say we can't expect legislators to vote for "controversial" queer-rights bills in an election year. We should just lay low until 2003.

Let's examine those points. Are gay-rights bills all that controversial? Lambda Letters does an annual score card on our state legislators. Each year we assign a percentage rate to the voting record of each legisla-

Continued on page 11

Attend Our Annual Meeting!

It's almost time again for our annual meeting. Lambda Letters' annual meeting will occur on Saturday, January 19, 2002, starting at 9:30 AM, at the Lambda Community Center at 1927 L Street in Sacramento. You are cordially invited to attend.

Please remember that we must have a quorum of one-third of the membership (in person or by proxy) to conduct business. So if you are unable to attend, please complete and return the proxy found in this newsletter mailing. If you are not sure if you can attend, please complete and return the proxy anyway. If you later find that you can attend, you can revoke your proxy and vote in person at the meeting. ###

Discrimination Complaints

Have you experienced employment discrimination because of your actual or perceived sexual orientation or because of your age (40 and over), ancestry, color, creed, disability, marital status, medical condition, national origin, race, religion, or sex? Have you been denied family and medical care leave or pregnancy disability leave?

If so, you may register a complaint with the Department of Fair Employment and Housing. In cases of employment discrimination, call the department at (800) 884-1684. In cases of housing discrimination, call (800) 233-3212. The person answering the phone will schedule an appointment for you at the Department of Fair Employment and Housing Office which is closest to your home or place of employment.

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Lambda Letters Progress Report

Messages Collected

November, 2001	2,581 letters & e-mails
In all of 2001	140,892 letters & e-mails

Dollars Spent

November, 2001	$4,572
In all of 2001	$47,408

Can You Help?

Please support the very important work of the Lambda Letters Project with your contributions.

Lambda Letters Project

Mission Statement

To promote people of color, feminist, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and HIV/AIDS status advocacy, and to bring people of color, women, lesbians, gays, bisexuals, transgendered persons, and persons affected by or living with HIV/AIDS into full participation in American society.

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The Lambda Letters Project does not sell or loan its mailing list to anyone. We give no information about who is, or is not, a member of the Project. We do, occasionally, send mailings on behalf of other worthwhile organizations, but this is done by our own volunteers so that no other organization has the opportunity to copy our mailing lists.

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People of Color Issue

Protect Emergency Care from Budget Cuts

by Marty Martinez

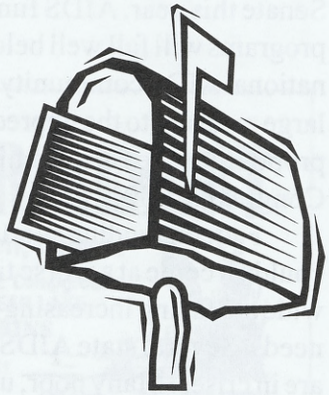
On November 14 Governor Davis announced reductions in current year spending due to a projected budget shortfall of over $14 billion. Because of the suddenness of the economic downturn and the rising state budget deficit, the governor proposed $2.25 billion in cuts to the budget already approved this year by the state legislature. The new reductions will have to be approved by an extraordinary session convened by the governor in January 2002.

Many important health-related programs are in jeopardy. One program that needs saving is $10 million for the Expanded Access to Primary Care (EAPC) program, which funds community clinics for serving the uninsured.

EAPC is an extremely cost-efficient program that provides comprehensive primary-care services to the medically indigent and uninsured population, including all relevant pharmacy, laboratory, x-ray, and case-management services. EAPC serves populations that would otherwise have few options other than seeking costly emergency-room care.

Prior to receiving the now-threatened $10 million augmentation, EAPC funding had increased only seven percent over the past ten years, while California has continued to have one of the nation's largest uninsured populations. Community clinics and health centers have only been able to address the needs of approximately 10 percent of California's 6.8 million uninsured prior to receiving EAPC augmentation funds.

Communities of color would be hit hard by this reduction in funding. It is important to let your senator know that you care about this program.



(Information for this article comes from the California Primary Care Association at *www.cpca.org*.)

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Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual/Transgendered Issue

Fight Gay-Bashing in Schools

by Boyce Hinman, Chief Lobbyist

It's no secret that gay-bashing is a major problem in America's schools. And too little is being done about it. California at least has some good laws on the books, but many states have no such laws. Senator Paul Wellstone (D–Minnesota) introduced SB 1357 to do something about it.

The bill is cosponsored by Senator Barbara Boxer. However, Senator Dianne Feinstein has not become a cosponsor. The bill was referred to the Senate Judiciary Committee in August 2000, but nothing has happened to it since. We urge you to write to Senators Feinstein and Boxer. Thank Senator Boxer for cosponsoring the bill but ask both of them to urge the Senate Judiciary committee to approve the bill.

The purpose of SB 1357 is to require an examination of how schools across the country are implementing the policy guidance of the Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights relating to sexual harassment directed against gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender students.

In 1997 the U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights determined that sexual harassment directed at gay or lesbian students—that is, sufficiently serious to limit or deny a student's ability to participate in or benefit from the school's program—constitutes sexual harassment prohibited by Title IX. This finding was unchanged in a 2001 update of the department's position on the matter.

A seven-state study by Human Rights Watch of the abuses suffered by GLBT students at the hands of their peers, published in "Hatred in the Hallways: Violence and Discrimination Against Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Students in U.S. Schools," found that such students were often the victims of abuses.

A 2000 study by the American Association of University Women focused on implementation of Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972. They found that many schools and universities have not established procedures for handling Title IX–based grievances.

Continued on page 10

Women's Issue

Help Innocent Afghans

by Adrienne Lauby

The people of the United States—and much of the world—have shown tremendous compassion for the families of the victims of the September 11 attack, showering them with sympathy and financial support. Now let's help the families of innocent civilians in Afghanistan who lost their lives during the U.S. military air strikes. Send a letter to your legislator asking them to set up a $20 million fund for the families of those that our government injured.

The U.S. government has not released information on the number of civilian casualties but a report by business professor Marc Herold estimates that over 3,700 innocent people were killed. If true, this is a greater loss of life than that of the World Trade Center!

Women and children have been particularly affected. Families, whose homes were leveled, sleep in tents made of scraps of material. Hospitals are overcrowded, understaffed, and lack medicine. People with serious mental problems go untreated. There are only six psychiatrists in a country of over twenty million. How can we leave the injured, displaced, and the families of the dead to fend for themselves in one of the poorest countries on earth?

Death and destruction lead to the resentment and anger that provide a fertile field for terrorism. Any of us listening to this woman from a refugee camp outside Jalalabad would wish to help:

"I came here with eight children from Kabul, but two died along the way. I was forced to accept food from men in the camp to feed my children. They would come to my tent at night, then leave me some bread."

We are U.S. people and we care, but how will the Afghanis know?

These people have suffered a nightmare 23 years of war and mass destruction. Will they forever associate the U.S. only with the bombs that killed their family members and drove them from their homes? Please send a letter to your legislator asking them to set up a $20 million fund to help those families.

(Information for this article was provided by Global Exchange's "No More Innocent Victims" campaign, which sent a delegation of four women to Afghanistan in early December. Their Web site is *www.globalexchange.org*.)

###

HIV/AIDS Issue

Protect the Healthcare Budget

by Boyce Hinman, Chief Lobbyist

Late last year Governor Davis asked all department heads to cut their budgets by 20 percent. He exempted state police and fire programs from this order. It is reported that the governor will ask the legislature to ratify these reductions to existing programs and to eliminate many new healthcare programs approved by the legislature in 2001.

The reason for these reduction is obvious. The state is taking in much less money than it is currently spending. The reason for the exemption is just as clear. Police and fire personnel protect people's lives. But so do many health programs.

We are therefore asking you to write to members of the Assembly. Ask them to exempt the healthcare budget, along with police and fire services, from the budget cuts. At the very least, they should exempt those health programs that provide life and death care for the people of California.

Currently, California's health system is in disarray. It has been reported that most county health agencies are totally unprepared to respond to any biological terrorist attack. There is a growing epidemic of a virulent form of tuberculosis. The rate of new HIV infections is rising as people become more and more careless about safe sex. HIV continues mutating rapidly, so that even the newest drug cocktails lose their effectiveness.

The AIDS community is extremely disappointed by the inadequate increases to the HIV/AIDS accounts provided by both the House of Representatives and the Senate this year. AIDS funding for care and treatment programs will fall well below the needs identified by the national AIDS community. This can be attributed in large measure to the unprecedented flat funding levels proposed in the Bush administration budget sent to Congress in 2001.

Federal funding shortfalls in HIV/AIDS programs couldn't come at a worse time. Communities nationwide are facing increasing caseloads and rising unmet needs. Several state AIDS drug assistance programs are in crises. Many poor, uninsured or underinsured

Continued on page 10

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January Legislative Update

The state law making process for 2002 is off and running. For the present, there are two deadlines driving the process. All bills introduced last year, but not yet out of their house of origin, must be approved by that house no later than January 31 or they are dead. For example, any bill beginning with "AB" must be approved by the Assembly and sent to the Senate by the end of January. In the following list you will find these bills described as two-year bills.

The state's budget problems are an issue. Many bills are dying because legislators think there will be no money to fund them.

The second deadline is February 22. Any new bills must be introduced by no later than that date. The following is the list of bills that we are tracking at this time.

HIV/AIDS Issues

AB 1423 (Helen Thomson, D–Davis)
Purpose: To include licensed marriage and family therapist—and clinical social worker—services within the scope of Medi-Cal covered benefits to the extent that federal matching funds are available, including home- and community-based services approved by the Department of Health and Human Services for beneficiaries with a diagnosis of AIDS (or ARC) who require intermediate care or a higher level of care.

Helen Thomson

See Copies of State Bills

View any state bill listed here by going to the Lambda Letters Project Web site! Go to www.lambdaletters.org and click on the Legislative Update button. Click on the bill number you're interested in and choose "HTML" to view it.

Status: Approved by the Assembly and sent to the Senate Health and Human Services Committee. The author has not decided yet whether or not to pursue the bill. If she does, it will not come up for a vote in committee until May or June.
LLP Position: Support.

SB 187 (John Vasconcellos, D–San Jose)
Purpose: To require the State Department of Health to establish and maintain a voluntary program for the issuance of registry identification cards to qualified medical marijuana patients, and to establish procedures under which a patient with the card could use marijuana for medical purposes. Note: A recent U.S. Supreme Court decision stated that, in spite of Proposition 215, a person may be prosecuted under federal law for possession of marijuana. The court said medical necessity does not justify possession. So signing up for a marijuana registry card may be signing a confession to violation of federal law.

John Vasconcellos

Status: Left on the Senate floor while Senator Vasconcellos seeks to persuade the governor to sign it.
LLP Position: Oppose.

Continued on page 6

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SB 622 (Deborah Ortiz, D–Sacramento)
Purpose: To allow the Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) supplemental nutrition branch of the State Department of Health Services to issue grants to local entities to provide certain dental services and information.

Deborah Ortiz

Status: Approved by the Senate and sent to the Assembly Human Services Committee for a hearing on June 26. Hearing cancelled at author's request. The author has not decided whether to move the bill. The state's budget woes are a problem.
LLP Position: Support.

Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual/Transgender Issues

AB 64 (Elaine Alquist, D–Santa Clara)
Purpose: To provide a state income tax deduction for the premiums paid by a taxpayer for long-term care insurance on the taxpayer and his or her spouse and dependents. Alquist may add domestic partners to the bill at the request of Lambda Letters.

Elaine Alquist

Status: Is in the Assembly Revenue and Taxation Committee. The author is still considering whether to move the bill.
LLP Position: Support if domestic partners are added alongside spouse.

AB 1326 (Dennis Mountjoy, R–Arcadia)
Purpose: To prohibit the promotion of homosexuality in public education.

Dennis Mountjoy

Status: Assigned to Assembly Education Committee. Slated for a vote on January 16. Is a two-year bill.
LLP Position: Oppose.

AB 1338 (Paul Koretz, D–West Hollywood)
Purpose: To establish a legal entity called a civil union, similar to that established in Vermont. Allows two adults to enter a civil union. Does not require that they be of opposite sexes. Declares that the rights and responsibilities of those who enter a civil union shall be the same as for those who get married.
Status: Referred to Assembly Judiciary Committee for a vote on January 15. Is a two-year bill.
LLP Position: Support.

AB 1649 (Jackie Goldberg, D–Los Angeles)
Purpose: To amend California's Fair Employment and Housing Act to ban employment and housing discrimination against transgendered people.

Jackie Goldberg

Status: Approved by the Senate Judiciary Committee. Dropped by the author at the request of the governor. The bill may be taken up again next year. If so, it will start where it left off this year. Its first committee would be the Senate Appropriations Committee. Goldberg reports that the governor has offered to encourage the development of regulations by the

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Department of Fair Employment and Housing that would do much of what AB 1649 was intended to do.
LLP Position: Support. We are cosponsors of the bill.

People of Color Issues

Thomas Calderon

AB 5 (Thomas Calderon, D–Montebello)
Purpose: To prohibit an insurer from refusing to issue or renew insurance on a private passenger car solely on the basis of a consumer credit report.
Status: Approved by the Assembly and sent to the Senate Insurance Committee. The author plans to move the bill, but it may not be heard in committee until May or June.
LLP Position: Support.

AB 14 (Jackie Goldberg, D–Los Angeles)
Purpose: To state the intent of the legislature to examine the state school facilities program to ensure that allocation formulas reflect the current and future needs for public kindergarten to 12th grade, and to examine and assess the needs of the higher educational system, including funding distributions.
Status: Approved by the Assembly and Senate. Assembly refused to concur with changes made in the Senate. Is in a two-house conference committee. They hope to have a recommended revision by January 31.
LLP Position: Neutral.

Keith Richman

AB 32 (Keith Richman, R–Chatsworth)
Purpose: To create the Cal-Health program, which would provide coordination of the Healthy Families and Medi-Cal programs. The bill would authorize providers to screen and temporarily enroll individuals in Medi-Cal and the Healthy Families Program at the time the person is provided with medical care, and would require full reimbursement of the provider for services covered under those programs . The bill would require licensed hospitals, clinics, and other health facilities to inform individuals about Cal-Health and, in the case of urgent or emergency services, the bill would require that individuals be informed about the program and given an opportunity to apply after services have been rendered. The bill would expand eligibility under the Medi-Cal program to adults with family incomes at or below 250 percent of the federal poverty level, and would require the state to apply to the federal government for waivers to allow federal funds to be used in that regard.
Status: Held in the Senate Appropriations Committee. No word yet on the author's plans for the bill.
LLP Position: Support.

Howard Wayne

AB 42 (Howard Wayne, D–San Diego)
Purpose: To establish a state-funded colorectal cancer screening program to be provided to uninsured or underinsured persons over the age of 50 and with incomes at or below 200 percent of the federal poverty level.
Status: Held in the Senate Inactive file. Author will

Continued on page 8

ECCO is pleased to support the Lambda Letters Project.

ECCO is proud to be a part of the activist LGBT community. When we work together, we can accomplish anything.

The Elections Committee of the County of Orange (ECCO) is a non-partisan Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, HIV/AIDS, and Women's political action committee serving Orange County and Long Beach, California.

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move the bill once he has enough votes to approve the bill
LLP Position: Support.

Virginia Strom-Martin

AB 108 (Virginia Strom-Martin, D–Duncan Mills)
Purpose: To require the state to issue a pharmacy license to authorize the operation of a pharmacy located on the land of a recognized Indian tribe without a pharmacist licensed under California's pharmacy law, subject to certain conditions, which would include a requirement for any pharmacist employed by the pharmacy to possess a license to practice pharmacy issued by another state or territory of the United States. It is often difficult to find pharmacists willing to work on Indian reservations. Most other states recognize each others' pharmacy licenses. Only Florida and California do not. Allowing pharmacists with licenses from other states to work on Indian reservations increases the pool of candidates and increases the chance of finding someone qualified who is willing to work on the reservation.

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Status: Is a two-year bill. Will be voted on in the Assembly Health Committee on January 15.
LLP Position: Support.

AB 127 (Marco Firebaugh, D–Los Angeles)
Purpose: To designate the California Police Activities League, in consultation with the California Department of Parks and Recreation, to coordinate, plan, and help implement a statewide youth enrichment sports program to combat juvenile delinquency. Would make grants available to local organizations which establish such programs.
Status: Failed in Assembly Appropriations Committee. Will probably be dropped by the author.
LLP Position: Support.

AB 503 (Virginia Strom-Martin, D–Duncan Mills)
Purpose: To establish a grant program for public schools in California to develop, expand, and strengthen dual-language education programs. These programs are taught in both English and a minority language. It allows English language–native children to become proficient in both English and another language. It allows other students to become proficient in both their native language and English.
Status: Held in Assembly Appropriations Committee. Is a two-year bill. No word yet on whether the author will move the bill.
LLP Position: Support.

Gloria Negrete McLeod

AB 596 (Gloria Negrete McLeod, D–Montclair)
Purpose: To require the Department of Corrections to test all inmates for hepatitis C 60 days prior to being paroled, as specified. This bill would also require inmates who test positive for the virus to complete a hepatitis C education program administered by the Department of Corrections. Would also require the department to see if an inmate, who tests positive for hepatitis, qualifies for veteran's health benefits and to inform the inmate if he or she qualifies.
Status: Referred to Assembly Public Safety Committee for a hearing on January 15. Is a two-year bill.
LLP Position: Support.

AB 788 (Marco Firebaugh, D–East Los Angeles)
Purpose: To broaden the definition of racial profiling

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by state or local police. Provides for money damages from law-enforcement personnel and public agencies to victims of racial profiling. Requires state and local police forces to report traffic stops and to include data about the stops relating to possible racial profiling. Specifies that such reports not include information by which the person stopped could be identified. Would also make police officers and their agencies liable for violation of racial profiling laws.

Marco Firebaugh

Status: This bill is being dropped by the author. He may introduce a similar bill this year.
LLP Position: Support.

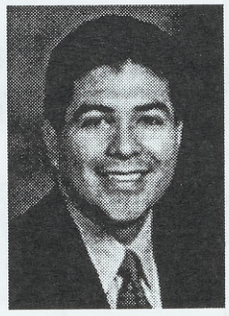
SB 410 (Sheila Kuehl, D–Los Angeles)
Purpose: To prohibit employers from requiring employees to agree to arbitrate any claim arising under the California Fair Employment and Housing Act. Would prohibit employers from firing, harassing, expelling, or otherwise discriminating against an employee for refusing to agree to such arbitration.

Sheila Kuehl

Status: Referred to the Senate Judiciary Committee. Is a two-year bill. Author has not decided whether to try to move the bill.
LLP Position: Support.

Women's Issues

AB 130 (Tony Cardenas, D–Sylmar)
Purpose: To expand and reorganize a state-funded family planning program to make it a comprehensive preventive and health screening program for low-income women under 65. Would provide funding for family-planning services, but specifically excludes funding for abortion-related services or advice. Current law already prohibits spending for abortions and this law leaves that provision unchanged.



Tony Cardenas

Status: Approved by the Assembly and sent to the Senate Health and Human Services Committee. Author has not decided whether to move the bill. Even if she does the bill would probably not be voted on in committee until May or June.
LLP Position: Support with reservations about the abortion issue.

SB 224 (Jackie Speier, D–San Mateo)
Purpose: To require the department of Health Services to submit a state plan amendment to the federal Health Care Financing Administration adopting the optional categorically needy eligibility group described in the federal Breast and Cervical Cancer Prevention and Treatment Act of 2000, thereby providing breast and cervical cancer treatment under the Medi-Cal program, subject to federal financial participation. The "optional categorically needy" described in the federal bill are low-income people being given cancer treatment, paid for by the state, but whose circumstances do not allow the state to request matching federal funds to help cover the cost of the treatment.

Jackie Speier

Status: Currently in the Assembly Appropriations Committee. Author has not decided whether to move the bill.
LLP Position: Support.

SB 927 (Martha Escutia, D–Norwalk)
Purpose: To require the appointment in domestic violence proceedings, and in other settings mandated by the court, of an interpreter for a person who is deaf or hearing-impaired as well as the appointment of a foreign language interpreter for a person not proficient in English; to require certified sign language interpreters in these proceedings; and to limit the services of foreign language interpreters to certified interpreters. The bill would provide for the waiver of fees for an interpreter for a petitioner who is not proficient in English in domestic violence proceedings, as well as for any person who appears *in forma pauperis* (with court fees waived), or for any other party pursuant to a

Martha Escutia

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court order. This bill would also require the Judicial Council to establish additional domestic violence training requirements for interpreters, as specified, and to conduct a public education and notification program
Status: Currently in the Senate Appropriations Committee. Is a two-year bill. The author plans to move the bill, perhaps after amending it. No hearing date set yet.
LLP Position: Support.

SB 993 (Liz Figueroa, D–Fremont)
Purpose: To increase the amount of money paid by the state to child care centers for the cost of caring for low-income children.
Status: Currently in the Assembly Human Services Committee. It has been stopped by the state's budget problems. The bill may be rewritten to serve another purpose of use to women.
LLP Position: Neutral pending word of the bill's new purpose.

Liz Figueroa

###

HIV/AIDS Issue

Continued from page 4

people with HIV/AIDS are being put on waiting lists and denied access to anti-HIV medications.

Although California has not had to impose such measures, the state will be required to provide significant funding to the program to avoid limiting access to life-prolonging treatments. If the state AIDS budget is cut, the effect on people living with AIDS will be draconian.

Please write to your assemblymember and tell him or her that healthcare programs should be exempted from the across-the-board cuts being considered for the state budget.

###

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LGBT Issue

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A 2001 report of the Surgeon General notes that antihomosexual attitudes hurt homosexuals, and have a negative impact on mental health, including a greater incidence of depression and suicide, lower self-acceptance, and a greater likelihood of hiding sexual orientation. It also states that 80 percent of gay men and lesbians, averaged over two dozen studies, had experienced verbal or physical harassment on the basis of their orientation, 45 percent had been threatened with violence, and 17 percent had experienced a physical attack.

We need to put a spotlight on the failure of schools across the country to protect queer youth. SB 1357 would do that. Please write to Senators Boxer and Feinstein. Urge them to get this bill moving. ###

Don't Know Who Represents You?
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Hope

Continued from page 1

tor. Table 1 below shows the average score received by state senators and assemblymembers for their votes on queer-rights bills. As you can see, the scores of assemblymembers have increased dramatically over the years. There has also been a significant improvement in the voting records of senators on queer issues.

Table 1. Average Legislators Scores on Queer-Rights Bills

Year	Assembly	Senate
1997	48%	58%
1998*	64%	63%
1999	58%	60%
2001	75%	66%

Notes:
We did not do a scorecard in 2000.
* 1998 was an election year.

But how has Governor Davis done during his years in office? Table 2 below shows the number of queer-rights bills received by the governor each year and what he did with them. As you can see, the number of queer-rights bills being signed by the governor has increased during his term in office. The closer he got to this year, an election year, the more bills he signed.

It's worth noting the governor has failed to support any bills of specific importance to transgendered people. In fact, this year he persuaded Assemblymember Jackie Goldberg (D–Los Angeles) to drop her bill, AB 1649, which would have banned employment and housing discrimination against that community.

Table 2. Governor Davis' Voting Record on Queer-Rights Bills

Year	Received	Signed	Vetoed
1999	6	4	2
2000	8	3	5
2001	7	6	1

The governor promised, in return, that his administration would adopt practices and regulations to accomplish much of what AB 1649 would have done. The California Department of Fair Employment and Housing and the California Fair Employment and Housing Commission appear to be making a good-faith effort to fulfill that promise. If all goes as expected, the new practices and regulations will go into effect early this year, an election year. You go figure.

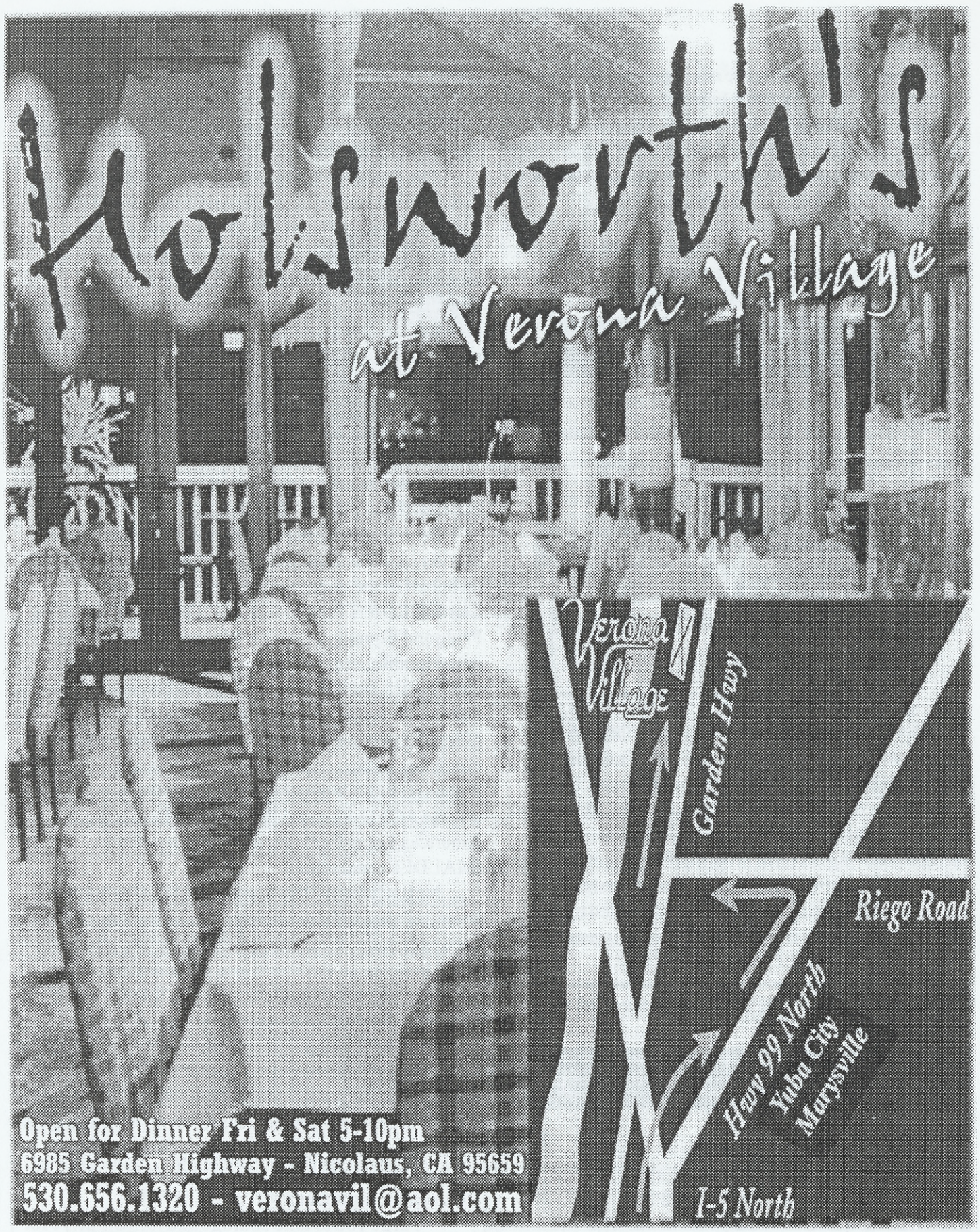
I think the facts demonstrate that queer-rights bills are becoming less and less controversial each year. Also, the Legislature's record in recent years indicates that legislators are not necessarily less likely to support our civil rights even in election years.

So what is making the difference? We now have two very professional statewide organizations working on behalf of the queer community. They are the Lambda Letters Project and the California Alliance for Pride and Equality (CAPE). We have also received considerable support from other groups in the queer community, such as the Los Angeles Gay and Lesbian Center, the National Center for Lesbian Rights, and others. Finally we have been organizing support from numerous groups outside the queer community. These groups include Congregationalists, Methodists, Quakers, the ACLU, Planned Parenthood, the Mexican American Legal Defense and Education Fund (MALDEF), and others.

Not only has all this organizing built respect for us among elected officials, but we are gaining more influence with them. We could take this election year off, but in doing so we would lose our momentum. I suspect we would go backwards in the number of new civil-rights laws passed and signed.

More than once people have told me they hate politicians. But when I ask them to join the effort of persuading legislators to do better, they refuse. In my view these are the good people, those who hate the evil more than they love the good. Hope really is based both in anger at the evil and in the courage to do something about it.

I urge you to take courage and join the drive for justice. Contact us. Tell us you want to do more to protect your rights! ###



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